GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:700
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2016
Trade with Neighbouring Countries
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total trade of India with the neighbouring countries including Nepal during the last three years and the current year;
(b) whether the Government has received proposals from the neighbouring countries for bilateral trade and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon;
(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase trade with neighbouring countries especially with Nepal and the achievements thereof; and
(d) the extent to which these steps have contributed to strengthening the Indian economy?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) : The details of total trade of India with the neighbouring countries, including Nepal, during the last three years and the current year (up to August, 2016) are given below:
Value in US$ Million

S.No.	Country	2013-2014		2014-2015		2015-2016		2016-17(Apr-Aug)	
		Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
1	AFGHANISTAN TIS	474.34	208.77	422.56	261.91	526.6	307.9	208.95	73.01
2	BANGLADESH PR	6,166.97	484.34	6,451.48	621.37	6,034.95	727.15	2,294.32	308.74
3	BHUTAN	355.6	152.17	333.94	149.87	468.95	281.27	216.7	62.18
4	MALDIVES	106.07	3.97	152.38	4.32	179.04	4.29	72.85	4.7
5	NEPAL	3,592.30	529.93	4,558.77	639.91	3,930.09	470.59	1,983.70	173.25
6	PAKISTAN IR	2,274.30	426.88	1,857.29	497.31	2,171.16	441.03	633.34	187.56
7	SRI LANKA DSR	4,534.35	666.93	6,703.72	756.17	5,309.53	742.79	1,536.13	234.39
Total		17,503.92	2,472.98	20,480.14	2,930.85	18,620.32	2,975.01	6945.99	1043.83

Source: DGCI&S Database
(b) and (c): The Government continues to engage proactively with SAARC countries, including Nepal, to strengthen trade and economic relations. Issues impacting bilateral trade, raised by these countries, are taken up for an early resolution. Bilateral and multilateral trade discussions are held with these countries from time to time to explore mechanisms for enhancement of cross border trade.

Issues relating to improvement of trade infrastructure in the form of upgradation of Land Customs Stations are also coordinated.

Further, assistance is provided under Market Access Initiative(MAI) and Market Development Assistance(MDA) schemes to Indian exporters, Export Promotion Councils, Apex Trade Bodies etc. for participation in events in foreign countries, including Nepal.
d) The share of India's exports to the SAARC countries vis-a-vis India's total exports has increased from 5.57% in 2013-14 to6.42% in 2016-17(April-August) and the share of India's imports from the SAARC countries vis-a-vis India's total imports has increased from 0.55% in 2013-14 to 0.73% in 2016-17 (April-August), thereby strengthening India's gains from trade.
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